

claims in a timely filed continuing application. Therefore, claims 1 and 32-101 are pending and are presented for examination.

The claims add no new matter. Probes having surfaces, at least, comprising non-metallic materials finds support, e.g., on page 6, third paragraph; page 10, second full paragraph; and page 13, first full paragraph.

This application contains amino acid sequences. In a related application the Examiner stated that a sequence listing would not be required because the application did not claim any nucleotide or amino acid sequences. Applicants request the Examiner to confirm this in the next action. If the Examiner does not do so, Applicants will file a sequence listing and computer readable form after receiving the next office action.

#### CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants request speedy examination of this application and the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone Thomas D. Paul at (713) 651-5325.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due with this amendment. If, however, any additional fees are due, please charge these additional fees to the deposit account of Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P., Account No. 06-23275 under Order No. 936611/D-5639-C4, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Respectfully submitted,



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